

What is claimed is:

1. An image forming device connected to an external device, the image forming device comprising:

an image forming unit forming images on a recording
5 medium;

a reception unit receiving a reset signal transmitted from an external device;

a reset process unit executing a reset process to reset the image forming unit; and

10 a reset process control unit selectively controlling the reset process unit to execute the reset process in a manner that the reset process control unit controls, during a reset signal valid mode, the reset process unit to execute the reset process upon receipt of the reset signal
15 and that the reset process control unit ignores, during a reset signal invalid mode, input of the reset signal, and fails to control the reset process unit to execute the

reset process.

2. An image forming device according to Claim 1,
further comprising:

a selecting unit enabling a user to select one mode
5 from among the reset signal valid mode and the reset signal
invalid mode;

a reset signal valid mode setting unit judging, when
the reception unit receives the reset signal, whether or
not the user has selected the reset signal valid mode, and
10 setting the reset process control unit into the reset
signal valid mode when the user has selected the reset
signal valid mode; and

a reset signal invalid mode setting unit judging, when
the reception unit receives the reset signal, whether or
15 not the user has selected the reset signal invalid mode,
and setting the reset process control unit into the reset
signal invalid mode when the user has selected the reset

signal valid mode.

3. An image forming device according to Claim 2,
further comprising:

a sleep mode control unit bringing the image forming
5 unit into a sleep mode when no print job is inputted within
a prescribed time after the image forming unit has
completed a printing process, the image forming unit being
capable of receiving a print job during the sleep mode and
consuming power less than while the image forming unit is
10 executing a printing process; and

a sleep-mode judging unit judging, when the reception
unit receives the reset signal, whether or not the image
forming unit is being in the sleep mode.

4. An image forming device according to Claim 3,
15 wherein when the sleep-mode judging unit determines that
the image forming unit is being in the sleep mode, the
reset process control unit in the reset signal valid mode

controls the sleep mode control unit to cancel the sleep mode and controls the reset process unit to execute the reset process, and

wherein when the sleep-mode judging unit determines
5 that the image forming unit is being in the sleep mode, the reset process control unit in the reset signal invalid mode controls the sleep mode control unit to fail to cancel the sleep mode and the reset process unit to fail to execute the reset process.

10 5. An image forming device according to Claim 4, further comprising an auto-select mode setting unit setting, when the reception unit receives the reset signal, the reset process control unit into either one of the reset signal valid mode and the reset signal invalid mode
15 automatically dependently on the determined results of the sleep-mode judging unit.

6. An image forming device according to Claim 5,

wherein the auto-select mode setting unit sets the reset process control unit into the reset signal valid mode when the sleep-mode judging unit determines that the image forming unit is not in the sleep mode, the auto-select mode setting unit setting the reset process control unit into the reset signal invalid mode when the sleep-mode judging unit determines that the image forming unit is in the sleep mode.

7. An image forming device according to Claim 2, further comprising an auto-select mode setting unit setting the reset process control unit into either one of the reset signal valid mode and the reset signal invalid mode automatically dependently on an operation state of the image forming unit,

wherein the selecting unit enables the user to select one mode from among the reset signal valid mode, the reset signal invalid mode, and the auto-select mode, the

selecting unit enabling the auto-select mode setting unit to perform its setting operation when the user has selected the auto-select mode.

8. An image forming device according to Claim 7,
5 wherein the auto-select mode setting unit judges whether the image forming unit is in a sleep mode when the reception unit receives the reset signal, the auto-select mode setting unit setting the reset process control unit into the reset signal valid mode when the image forming
10 unit is not in the sleep mode, the auto-select mode setting unit setting the reset process control unit into the reset signal invalid mode when the image forming unit is in the sleep mode.

9. An image forming device according to Claim 1,
15 further comprising:

a selecting unit enabling the user to select one mode from among at least two of the reset signal valid mode, the

reset signal invalid mode, and an auto-select mode;

a display unit displaying results of the user's selection attained by the selecting unit;

a mode setting unit executing a setting operation when
5 the reception unit receives the reset signal, the mode
setting unit setting the reset process control unit into
the reset signal valid mode when the user has selected the
reset signal valid mode, setting the reset process control
unit into the reset signal invalid mode when the user has
10 selected the reset signal invalid mode, and setting the
reset process control unit into the auto-select mode when
the user has selected the auto-select model; and

a sleep-mode judging unit judging, when the reset
process control unit is set into the auto-select mode,
15 whether the image forming unit is in a sleep mode, and
setting the reset process control unit in the auto-select
mode into the reset signal valid mode when the image

forming unit is not in the sleep mode and setting the reset process control unit in the auto-select mode into the reset signal invalid mode when the image forming unit is in the sleep mode.

5 10. An image forming device according to Claim 1, wherein the reception unit receives the reset signal from the external device at least when power to the external device is turned on.

10 11. An image forming device according to Claim 1, further comprising a warm-up process unit executing a warm-up operation for controlling the image forming unit to perform preparation operation for the printing process;

 wherein the reset process unit executes as the reset process a print data initialization process for
15 initializing print data, a print settings data initialization process for initializing print settings data, and a warm-up operation initiation process for directing

the warm-up process unit to begin a warm-up operation.

12. An image forming device according to Claim 1,
wherein the reception unit receives the reset signal, which
is transmitted from the external device via a parallel
5 interface cable.

13. An image forming device according to Claim 1,
wherein the reception unit includes:

a parallel interface port capable of connecting to the
parallel interface cable; and

10 a network port capable of connecting to a network
cable; and

further comprising a reset signal invalid mode auto-
select unit automatically setting the reset process control
unit into the reset signal invalid mode when the parallel
15 interface cable is connected to the parallel interface port
and the network cable is connected to the network port.